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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

DE LAFORCADE

Atty. Ref.: 2365-27

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

Filed: March 16, 2001

Examiner:

For: CLEAN-OPENING CONTAINER AND CORRESPONDING CAP

* * * * *

March 16, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination,
please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a surface capable, by adsorption, of spreading some of the liquid away from the orifice of the nozzle when the device is opened.
4. (Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that means (8, 11) are provided for fixing the cap onto the container and in that the cap comprises means for allowing the pressure in the zone inside the container and the pressure outside to be balanced upon opening before the means for fixing the cap onto the container are deactivated.